

# The Pocahontas Times.

It then would be a road a piece in that way keep thy heart from fainting and thy soul from sleep. Go to the woods and hills. — Longfellow.

West Virginia September 24, 1903.

\$1.00 a Year

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**Physicians' Cards.**  
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**DR. Q. J. CAMPBELL,**  
Dentist,  
MONTEREY, VA.

Will visit Pocahontas county at  
least twice a year. The exact date  
of his visit will appear in this  
paper.

**DR. ERNEST B. HILL,**  
DENTIST,  
Marlinton and Academy, W. Va.  
Graduate U. S. S. of Maryland.  
Dentistry practiced in all its bran-  
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Office in Bank of Marlinton build-  
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**DR. M. STOUT,**  
DENTIST,  
MARLINTON, W. VA.  
Will practice throughout Poca-  
hontas county.

Those needing his services will  
please communicate by letter and  
make appointments to suit con-  
venience.

## STAR ROUTE MAIL CAR- RIER.

### A THREATENED RETURN TO THE OLD GOLD BRICK SYSTEM.

What the New York World Thinks  
of it and What We Know.

The New York World prints  
the following about star route  
mail carriers:

Washington, Sept. 5.—Not  
since the organization of the Post-  
Office Department has there been  
such a waste of public money as  
that now going on in that depart-  
ment.

The carrying of mails on what  
is styled "star route service" dur-  
ing the past century has been con-  
ducted on a system of contracting  
under periodic advertisements  
of the Postmaster-General. For  
twenty years, it not for a longer  
period, the pro-rata cost of this  
service, had decreased almost in a  
ratio adverse to the increase of  
service required so that the Gov-  
ernment has been benefited to the  
extent of millions of dollars.

But all this has been changed.  
The tremendous increase in cost  
of star route service began in  
1900. Since then it has grown to  
an extent unprecedented. It has  
resulted in waste of millions of  
dollars. Nearly \$7,000,000 is  
being paid out in excess of all  
former rates of pay for such ser-  
vice. The loss will not fall short  
of \$10,000,000 in the next five  
years, if present methods are con-  
tinued.

The star route service consists  
of mail routes carried generally by  
men with horses, all through the  
country, and for convenience of  
the Government the country is  
divided into four sections—the  
New England, the Southern the  
Middle and the Western States.  
The last includes nearly all States  
and Territories west of the Mis-  
sissippi River. Contracts are let  
now in four years for about  
twenty thousand routes.

### TURNING A GAIN INTO A LOSS.

Up to July, 1901, bidding for  
mail service had been open to all  
persons in every section of the  
United States, and the large sav-  
ings that have been made have  
resulted from this system of com-  
petition. In each case the suc-  
cessful bidder was required to  
furnish the Government a bond  
guaranteeing faithful performance  
of the contract, the amount of  
which was determined by the  
Postmaster-General. The sav-  
ings to the Government in 1897  
amounted to \$123,644, in 1898  
to \$248,993, in 1899 to \$138,-  
218.50, and in 1900 to \$69,812.50  
showing a total pro-rata gain in  
four years of \$3,730,691.

W. S. Shallenberger, Second  
Assistant Postmaster-General, was  
led by George F. Stone, Chief  
Clerk, to issue an order on Feb.  
13, 1900, that hereafter no propo-  
sal for carrying the mails on  
star routes would be considered  
unless the person making the pro-  
posal resided at some place satis-  
factory to the Second Assistant  
Postmaster-General. Consequently  
competition was no longer  
possible.

From that day forward the in-  
crease in cost began. In 1897  
the annual expenditures in the  
New England section for star  
service was \$1,105,033.51. Under  
the new order, abolishing  
competition, it was increased in  
1901 by \$433,241.50 per annum.  
The following year in the Western  
section the cost was raised \$947,-  
059 per annum, and the estimated  
increase in the Middle States is  
at the rate of \$150,900 per annum.  
To this must be added the gains  
to the star service by the discon-  
tinuance for rural delivery, which  
amounted in 1901 and 1902 to  
\$396,098.

Here is shown an increase in  
the expenditures for star service  
from July 1, 1891, to June 30,  
1902, of \$6,341,200, which must  
still be increased in like propor-  
tions in the section not yet let.  
To the above increase of star ser-  
vice must be added the constantly  
increasing cost of rural free de-

livery, which is growing into  
colossal figures. The appropria-  
tion called for is now \$12,000,000  
per annum, and the major por-  
tion of this will consist of discon-  
tinued star routes.

### RURAL FREE DELIVERY.

In 1899 the delivery of mails  
by what is known as "Rural Free  
Delivery" became a subject of  
serious consideration by the First  
Assistant Postmaster-General.  
By this system the most densely  
populated sections of the country  
were supplied by wagon service,  
the carrier delivering the mails  
into boxes near the residences of  
the people supplied. In every  
instance the establishment of this  
service superseded Star routes.  
In 1902 the appropriation for  
rural free delivery was \$7,000,000  
and the decreased in the number  
of Star routes was 1,030, and yet  
there was a deficiency in the  
amount appropriated for Star  
transportation of \$160,000 and an  
annual increase in one section  
amounts to \$947,059.

That the action of Shallen-  
berger was unauthorized is al-  
leged. Congress refused in 1899  
to confirm or sanction a similar  
change, then proposed. Mr. Lord  
of California, Chairman of the  
House Post-Office Committee,  
rigorously opposed the change,  
and pointed out that it would re-  
sult in a vast increase in the cost  
of Star service. The figures  
quoted show his prediction has  
come true.

If the truth were known the  
above article was probably insti-  
gated by those syndicates which  
before 1900 were in the habit of  
underbidding on all star routes  
and giving the country the poorest  
mail service in the world.

Under the old rule the routes  
would be advertised, but the peo-  
ple of the vicinity where the work  
was to be performed never thought  
of putting in a bid as they knew  
that they would be met with what  
might be called an omnibus bid  
by the companies who made it a  
business of acquiring these routes  
and subletting them. They would  
probably put in a bid for a  
thousand mail routes and many  
of the routes would be listed  
much higher than the bids of in-  
dividuals but the totals would be  
smaller.

The bid of the syndicate would  
be accepted and then the company  
would put its agents on the road  
to sell the gold bricks which they  
had on hand. This got to be so  
common that individuals never  
paid any attention to the matter,  
and rarely if ever bid.

The agent of the syndicate  
would appear and we all remem-  
ber how he was detested by the  
ordinary business man. He must  
have had the hide of a rhinoceros  
to have faced a community with  
the proposition that he had to  
offer. But it was certain that  
sooner or later he would find  
some one so anxious to get a con-  
tract that he could sublet the  
route. Generally the pay for a  
man and horse was about \$1.00  
per day. Then ensued a poor  
mail service. If the mail got  
through at all it was at the ex-  
pense of a poor old sore backed  
horse, and if you were at all ten-  
der hearted it was positively pain-  
ful to see the average mail horse.

It was considered the duty of  
all men who abided by the bibli-  
cal injunction to be merciful to  
beasts to kill a horse rather than  
to sell it into the mail service.  
It was also a constant aggrava-  
tion to think that you had in your  
community men whose judgment  
was so poor that they would allow  
themselves to be drawn into such  
contracts.

The mail often missed coming  
all together as the horses were  
not strong enough to put the mail  
through when the roads were  
deep with mud or snow. We  
endured these ills for it would  
have only added to the hardship  
of the carrier and his wife begot  
horse to have reported him.

What must strangers have  
thought of the aspect of the aver-  
age mail outfit? They must have  
considered that the government was

## SOME OBSERVATIONS.

### AND COMMENTS FROM REV. J. C. BROWN.

Who has been seeing something of  
the Switzerland of America.

Were you to go out to Rich-  
wood, you would think some man  
with an Aladdin's lamp had been  
there and was still there. Be-  
sides the big saw-mill the big  
tannery, the big place for the  
mountains of West Va. just think  
if you can of a clothes pin factory  
turning out 500,000 clothes pins  
a day, and a car being loaded for  
New York and then sent to Aus-  
tralia. Young ladies put them in  
5 doz. each, and some earn \$1.50  
per day.

The churches are there, and the  
Presbyterians are, for once first  
on the ground and with a church  
about as much alive as the town  
and people.

It is a big jump to Alderson.  
The Rev. W. W. Morrison paid  
there a visit and it was worth  
more than a days journey to hear  
him talk of missionary life at  
Luebo and in Africa. No one  
tired and one person would have  
heard him all the night through  
and let Morpheus gang away.  
Hardly less entertaining was the  
exercises of the Infant Class in  
the Sabbath School under the care  
of Mrs. Slawn, a credit to the  
church to the preachers alike and  
a lady keeper.

On to Ainsworth where 1,200 tons  
of coal and coke are mined and  
prepared every day and shipped  
by C. & O. R. R. The coal is  
ground up to powder before it is  
put in the ovens to be fired for  
coke.

Well down to Charleston and  
what a marvelous growth from  
the village of boyhood days to a  
city where on ground where rab-  
bits were hunted, ponds were  
skated over, you see fine houses  
and tidy yards and other homes  
being prepared for the growing  
population, such stores, of every  
kind with enticing wares making  
a man wish he had a few dollars  
to spend buying things useful and  
ornamental. Labor day was well  
observed and creditable displays  
made of various trades and occu-  
pations, and more people in the  
place than a circus.

Away down through Kentucky  
the eastern part dry, streams  
whose beds showed no moisture  
and fields bare of grass or green  
of any kind, except small corn  
on its last legs to have contractors  
of that class.

The wiles that the syndicate  
worked to sell the gold bricks  
will probably never be fully  
known. Probably the agent in  
most cases promised a bonus if  
the local man would take a sub-  
contract but it was never paid.  
The subcontractor would sign up  
for a certain amount and that con-  
trolled and the bonus was refused.  
"Our agent had no authority to  
make such an offer," etc.

It was in consideration of the  
poor mail horse that the policy  
was adopted to give the home  
man a chance to carry the mail  
at living wages. At the same  
time the post masters were re-  
quired to report the condition of  
the horses used in the star route  
service. The policy had the de-  
sired effect and since 1900 the  
mail carriers have ceased to be  
noted for their miserable condition  
and the horses are in good con-  
dition.

It is also quite certain that if it  
had been known in 1900 that  
wages were to advance in the  
"alarming" manner in which  
they have since then that the gov-  
ernment would have had to pay  
still higher for its mail service.  
If the syndicate tackled the mail  
contracts again it may find that it  
the four years of freedom the peo-  
ple have learned something and  
then the syndicate may have to go  
into bankruptcy.

The syndicate is at work again  
and the article which we print is  
evidence that it will probably get  
arousing allowing it to try to hood-  
wink the people again.

and burly tobacco. Oh, the fields  
of that noxious weed. But the  
vista, stretching 5 to 10 miles on  
each side of the train was a fre-  
quent delight. More gently roll-  
ing land in sight and some level  
than in all Pocahontas Co. But  
more green grass in a few miles  
can be seen in Greenbrier than  
was seen in 100 miles travel.  
Well Kentucky is no more the  
bloody ground of Daniel Boone's  
day, and except such a skirmish  
as was in Breathitt Co. you hear  
of no killing of people. There  
are three young men together  
companions one with chawing  
gum in his mouth, and his jaws  
are working as if driven by steam,  
or some strong motor power.

There is no cessation as he trav-  
els for 50 miles. Here changes  
cars for Danville. In comes the  
man with his jaws still working,  
deposits a large telescope on the  
rack, heavy, wonder if it is all  
filled with chewing gum. That  
cur dog runs along inside the  
fence, barking at the train, like  
human cur dogs barking at the  
fast going chariot of the King.

About as much accomplished in  
one case as the other. The theo-  
logical Seminary building of '58,  
at rack, weeds in the yard, fence  
down but in the town has been  
marvelous growth and the Uni-  
versity, Deaf and Dumb build-  
ing and grounds are abandoned.  
Kentucky puts down the money,  
both state and individual at a rate  
that shames West Virginia. But  
few cattle were seen, most of  
them cows for dairy purposes  
I judge. All old friends of other  
days gone, except here and there  
one. Had the pleasure of meet-  
ing one, Rev. E. W. Bettinger at  
Anchorage and put in some pleas-  
ant hours with his family, and  
there was a bowl of savory  
potage on the table, as good and  
better than that Esau sold his  
birthright for as there were no  
"potatoes" in the ingredients.

Bellowood Seminary is not  
what it was in days gone by in  
patronage. Better buildings are  
needed and the support of those  
who send elsewhere, where show  
and tinsel make the greater part  
of an education!

What a delight to see more  
than a hundred old Confederates  
at the Old Confederate Soldiers  
Home, in the light summer gray,  
well fed, well roomed, not a cent  
to pay, the hat was lifted in salute  
to them all.

And Louisville, grown as large  
again as the last time seen at a  
meeting of the Goul Assembly,  
then Dr. R. L. Dabney turned  
his nose as one of the delegates  
from the other assembly plead for  
commercial relations. The up-  
ward twist can be seen yet. En-  
tertainment in the home of Col.  
B. H. Young is riotous enjoyable,  
a tonic to a weary traveler. "Eat  
there is no charge, and you must  
not go home and say you were  
not well fed." The best water-  
melon raiser in Kentucky and hav-  
ing a great variety of the best  
grapes. There are China rabbits  
they are beauties.

Stuart Robinson Memorial church a very  
pleasant one to speak in. The  
congregation is small in all the  
churches as some are away in  
hot weather, and some in the city  
taking a vacation from attending  
on worship when the pastor is  
away and others enjoying an out-  
ing. Rev. N. L. Rice is buried  
in the University Cave Hill Dan-  
ville, and Stuart Robinson in  
Cave Hill Cemetery Louisville.  
On the simple low stone that  
marks his earthly resting place is  
the inscription:

To my Husband  
Rev. Stuart Robinson,  
Born in Strabane, Ireland,  
Nov. 11, 1814.  
Died  
Louisville, Ky., Oct. 5th, 1869.  
"He being dead yet speaketh."

And very different speaking of  
the above named, living or dead  
from that of a living preacher in  
Kannawa who told a woman,  
that unless she was "lunatic"  
and she would be damned."  
and as she said "prove it to me"  
and of the Bible. Let us read  
Philippians 3:16-19. Enough to  
make one weep now.

Some parties preparing for the  
burial of a person of reprobate  
reputation, thought they had a  
case that would baffle the benevo-  
lent person in question. As he  
approaches them at the grave, he  
was asked if he knew anything  
good to say about the deceased  
after a momentary pause, he re-

## A TRIP.

### TO SOUTHWEST POCAHONTAS

Third Paper.—Round about Lobelia.

From Lobelia Joel soon had me  
at his home nestled away where  
there is so much that is reposeful  
and beautiful. Here memories of  
the most pleasant characters were  
revived and meeting Mrs. Peck,  
looking so cheerful and well, was  
almost like meeting one returning  
from the grave. This esteemed  
friend of more than a half cen-  
tury from childhood will never  
be as near her decesses, until  
she does die as she was  
three years ago when there  
were friends who mourned her  
as dead, one evening at Edray while  
listening to what a friend told  
a visit but a day or so previously  
to her bedside near Lobelia.

Accompanied part of the way  
by the venerable Mr. Peck so  
grievously afflicted, a leisurely  
performed and brief tramp  
brought me to Samuel McCarty  
The home of Miss Susie McCarty  
a popular teacher of schools ap-  
preciated by those attending the  
Teachers Institutes her services  
at the organ. Her sister  
Maggie is an amateur kodak artist  
and her work is above the aver-  
age and shows special talent.  
Miss Susie was to show me the  
way to Squire Bruffey not a mile  
away. While she was getting  
ready I sauntered down to the  
fish pond lighted a cigar and  
spent some time smoking and  
ruminating. Upon returning to  
the house I found the mother and  
her daughters harnessing a nice  
rig, when it was brought out,  
rather than hurt their feelings, I  
consented, and so it was not long  
that Miss Susie had me at Squire  
Bruffey's gate, where all was  
pleasant as could be. The rig  
was left at the Squire's and after  
supper all repaired to Emmanuel  
church where a phenomenal audi-  
ence convened. The singing  
had a timbre about it that in for-  
mer years always thrilled my  
heart as a sure precursor of the  
Holy Spirit's reviving power and  
presence in the hearts of the  
people. This is the church where  
Morgan Kenison sings and has  
Squire Bruffey and Mr. and Mrs.  
Barnett Grimes to help him.

About mid night repose was  
found in the upper chamber that  
Mrs. Bruffey keeps for the use  
of preachers. Mr. Bruffey is a  
grandson of John Bruffey in some  
respects one of the more remark-  
able men that lived in the formative  
period of our country's  
history. In personal appearance  
and in mental endowments but  
few if any that ever lived in Poca-  
hontas were more lavishly en-  
dowed than what was allotted to  
John Bruffey, by some means or  
other his "noble rage" was re-  
pressed and the "genial current"  
of his soul frozen.

Wednesday morning Squire  
Bruffey rigged up his surrey and  
prepared to drive for Hillsboro.  
Mrs. Bruffey and her four premium  
boys, Carl, Cecil, Ross and Glenn  
formed a part of the company and  
so Bruffey's surrey lacked but one  
of having as many souls to carry  
over Viney mountain as Noah's  
Ark, tried to carry over Ararat.

The road up the western slopes  
of Viney mountain had just been  
repaired by himself and young  
Morgan and so it was above  
criticism. After passing the crest  
and reaching another section that  
had been torn up by a cloud burst  
and rent by numerous loaded  
teams and the opinion seemed to  
be unanimous that there could be  
nothing good said about that road  
not even by a person who had  
the reputation of the old man that  
was never known to say anything  
but good about anything what-  
ever.

Some parties preparing for the  
burial of a person of reprobate  
reputation, thought they had a  
case that would baffle the benevo-  
lent person in question. As he  
approaches them at the grave, he  
was asked if he knew anything  
good to say about the deceased  
after a momentary pause, he re-

marked, "why" friends, "our  
dead neighbor was a mighty good  
smoker." Taking up the cue, one  
of the party observed there is one  
good thing we can say about this  
road, "it is a mighty good jolter."  
The scene of the cloud burst that  
occurred a few months since, west  
of Hillsboro, presents much to  
impress the mind. The rain  
poured out by the clouds formed  
a torrent of such power as to move  
rocks weighing tons, like blocks  
of wood, opened ravines and sub-  
merged trees, and reached objects  
never known to be under water  
before and some of the residents  
of the vale began to think of va-  
cating their dwelling located  
though they were miles from regu-  
lar streams of running water.  
This event marks an epoch in that  
vicinity and will be talked about  
for a hundred years to come. At  
one point we were near the place  
where the Cutlip brothers had  
killed two days previously, nine  
rattlesnakes and captured the  
tenth alive with a view to selling  
it to the show people.

At another point we were in the  
shade of a princely oak one of the  
noblest trees of its kind, anywhere  
in sight. Its topmost boughs  
were festooned by garlands fur-  
nished by a grape vine, twelve  
inches in diameter if not more.  
If there be anything to match it  
in West Virginia will someone  
please tell where found. From  
this shade, it was a matter of but  
a few minutes when Hillsboro  
was entered and upon driving up  
to the Methodist church yard met  
the people dispersing for their  
homes.

The genial Marlinton pastor was  
soon at the carriage and the first  
question was, "what in the world  
are you riding around with these  
Methodists for?" "why to have  
one of the times of my life and to  
find out whether it be for a fact  
that change of pasture is good for  
an old sheep."

Mrs. George Collison had the  
whole party to go with her to the  
ideal home where the "good will"  
Sheriff lives, mentioned elsewhere.  
It was here a relic was shown  
that may not be duplicated any-  
where and that is a sample of  
maple sugar stirred off 83 years  
ago by the pioneer James Mor-  
rison. Interesting services con-  
ducted by Presiding Elder Tyler  
and participated by preachers  
Lynch and York, and Squire  
Carry were attended at 3 p. m.  
and then as the glorious sunlight  
was waning and I found what many  
a prince might well envy, in the  
home of Col. George McNeel.

W. T. P.

### Ten Thousand Churches.

In the United States have used  
the Longman & Martinez Pure  
Paints.

Every Church will be given a  
liberal quantity whenever they  
paint.

Don't pay \$1.50 a gallon for  
Linsseed oil (worth 60 cents) which  
you do when you buy thin paint  
in a can with a paint label on it.  
8 x 6 make 48, therefore when  
you want fourteen gallons of paint  
buy only eight gallons of L. & M.  
and mix six gallons of pure lin-  
seed oil with it.

You need only four gallons of  
L. & M. Paint, and three gallons  
of Oil mixed therewith to paint a  
good sized house.

Houses painted with these paints  
never grow shabby, even after  
18 years.

These celebrated paints are sold  
by  
W. J. Killingsworth, Marlinton,  
W. H. Hull, Green Bank, H. N.  
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### Job Work

that Pleases.

Price Bros., Printers.

### Commissioners' Sale of Valuable Real Estate.

Pursuant to a decree of the Cir-  
cuit Court of Pocahontas County,  
West Va., rendered at the April  
term 1903 thereof in the chancery  
cause of H. A. Yeager's admrx.  
v. H. A. Yeager's heirs others,  
the undersigned special commis-  
sioners will on

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1903,

the first day of the October Cir-  
cuit Court at the front door of the  
Court House of Pocahontas county  
proceed to sell at public auction the  
highest bidder the following  
described tracts or parcels of  
lands of which Henry A. Yeager  
died seized.

1st, One acre of land in the

of Main street and Camden ave-  
nue. This lot has been divided  
into 8 lots facing Main street and  
Camden avenue with proper alleys  
and now constitute one of the best  
business blocks in the town of  
Marlinton. Said lots numbered  
from 1 to 8 inclusive will be of-  
fered for sale separately, and then  
the block as a whole and the bid  
or bids will be accepted as may  
prove most advantageous for said  
estate. The plat of this block  
may be seen at the office of the  
clerk of the Circuit Court of said  
county.

Lot 1 and Lot 2 are 30 x 165,  
Lot 3 is 34 x 165,  
Lot 4 is 40 x 165,  
Lot 5 is 34 x 130,  
Lot 6 and Lot 7 are 40 x 190,  
Lot 8 (Corner Lot) is 50 x 190.

2nd, Lot 26 in Block 34 of the  
proper plat of said town known as  
the Crouch lot. This lot has on  
it a dwelling house and three  
other buildings suitable for out-  
buildings or tenement houses.

3rd, Lots No. 8 and 9 in block  
14 of said town. These lots ad-  
join; are vacant and are well sit-  
uated near the tannery site and will  
be offered separately. These lots  
especially well located for dwell-  
ing houses.

4th, The lots No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5,  
6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 15 and 16, in  
block 19 of said town. These  
lots are opposite the C. & O. Rail-  
way Co.'s depot and are well lo-  
cated for business lots or dwell-  
ings. They will be offered as  
follows:

Lots 1 and 2 on which is a four  
room cottage, Lot 3 on which is  
also a two room cottage, Lots 4  
5 and 6 on which is a large two  
story dwelling house now occupied  
by A. B. Kincaid and others.

Lots 8 and 9 on which is located  
a large dwelling house now  
occupied by Mrs. Rella F. Yeager.  
Lots 7, 10, 15 and 16 which  
are vacant lots will be offered sepa-  
rately.

5th, Lots 1 and 2 in Block 21,  
of said town. These lots are in  
the block on which the Bank of  
Marlinton is located and are  
among the most desirable in said  
town. They will be offered sepa-  
rately. They adjoin and are vac-  
ant.

6th, Three tracts of land con-  
taining 19, 56, 47 1/2 acres, and the  
spruce and hemlock timber on 117  
acres all of which is known as the  
Kerr land, situated in Greenbank  
District in this county. Said land  
is partly improved and partly in  
timber. This property will be  
offered as a whole.

7th, The undivided one-half of a  
tract of timber land containing in  
all 160 acres on Piles mountain  
known as the Church land, and  
owned by said estate and L. M.  
McClintic jointly.

8th, The 1-5 undivided interest  
in a tract of 1600 acres in  
Greenbank District on the West  
Fork of Greenbrier River. This  
land is in timber. The rest of the  
tract is in the names of W. M.  
McAllister, R. S. Turk, J. R.  
England and Chas. P. Jones.

9th, A tract of timber land con-  
taining 71 acres known as the  
Price Land opposite the town of  
Marlinton and running to the line  
of the corporation. Said tract has  
been divided into eight lots to  
give any one an opportunity to  
buy a desirable wood land or  
building lot near said town.

Lot No. 1 contains 5 acres,  
Lot No. 2 contains 5 acres,  
Lot No. 3 contains 6 1/2 acres,  
Lot No. 4 contains 8 1/2 acres,  
Lot No. 5 contains 7 1/2 acres,  
Lot No. 6 contains